In addition to the general assistance provided by the Ministry of Human Resources Development and the State Governments, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing a number of schemes, as indicated at Statement 3 for assisting students belonging to SC and ST respectively (*see* below).

As per Government policy, 15% and 7.5% of seats in educational institutions are kept reserved for SCs for STs respectively. SCs/STs Cells have been set up in educational institutions to safegard the interest of SCs/STs students. In Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas, SC/ ST students have been given fees exemption.

Statement

List of Schemes being operated for the educational development of socially disadvantaged groups

1. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;
2. Centraly Sponsored Scheme of Pre Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations;
3. Central Sector Scheme of Special Educational Development Programme for Scheduled Caste girls belonging to very low literacy level districts;
4. National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, etc. students for higher studies abroad;
5. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes boys and girls;
6. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Book Banks for SC & ST students;
7. Centrally Sector Scheme of Up gradation of merits of SC & ST students;
8. Centrally Sponsored Coaching and Allied scheme for SC and ST students;
9. Assistance to NGOs for academic benefit of SC and ST students;
10. Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas; and
11. Educational complex for low literacy pockets for development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas.

Inadequate Academic Assistance to SC Students

1474. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the academic assistance rendered to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes is very inadequate;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to upgrade the academic assistance to Scheduled Castes in each State;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to set up any such institute in order to provide academic assistance to SC students; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Under the Post Matric Scholarship given to Scheduled Caste students, assistance is provided towards maintenance for both day scholars and hostellers, Compulsory non-refundable fees, thesis typing/ printing charges, study tour charges, book allowance for pursuing correspondence courses and special provisions for students with disabilities. Under the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme assistance is provided to pursue courses in select areas of study abroad. List of schemes in operation for Scheduled Castes students is at statement (*See* below). Rate of assistance under these schemes are revised from time to time as per the existing guidelines.

(c) and (d) Under the scheme for construction of hostels, 50% assistance to State Government, 100% assistance to UTs and 45% central assistance to NGOs is being provided. The scheme for coaching and allied has been revised in September, 2001 and scale of assistance has been increased for assisting Scheduled Castes students in preparation for admission to vocational/technical educational institutions and getting employment in Group 'A' and 'B' posts/ services.

Statement-I

List of Schemes in operation for Scheduled Castes Students

List of Schemes being operated for the academic advancement of Scheduled Caste students:—

1. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes;
2. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations;
3. Central Sector Scheme of Special Educational Development Programme for Scheduled Caste girls belonging to very low literacy level districts;

4. National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes students for higher studies abroad;
5. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for Scheduled Castes boys and girls;
6. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Book Banks for SC students;
7. Central Sector Scheme of Upgradation of Merits of SC students;
8. Centrally Sponsored Coaching and Allied scheme for SC students; and
9. Assistance to NGOs for academic benefit of SC students.

Plan Outlay for SC/ST Development

1475. SHRI BIRABHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether government had accepted the recommendation of Dr. Ambedkar Birth centenary celebration committee (headed by the Prime Minister) during 1992 to earmark every year funds out of the Plan Outlay at least proportionate to the SC/ST Population for their overall development and to bring them on the mainstream of our national life;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total National Plan Outlay during the Eighth (1992—97) and Ninth (1997—2002) five Year Plans; and

(d) the funds earmarked and spent for overall development of SCs and STs indicating Schemes/ Porgrammes and results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The National Committee for the Centenary Celebrations of Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had recommended for provision of fund for development of SCs and STs according to their population percentage in 1992. As per the strategy of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) evolved by the Planning Commission in 1975 and Special Component Plan (SCP) in 1979, the State Governments/Union Territories have been asked to prepare and implement TSP and SCP by earmarking part of the Plan fund in proportion to the percentage of STs and SCs in the States/UTs respectively. The Central Ministries have also been requested to take action accordingly. Implementation of the TSP and SCP by the State Government/UTs is monitored by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment respectively. Implemenation of TSP and SCP by the Central Ministries are monitored by the Standing Triparte Committee of the Planning Commission,